Donal and Conal. 8

Author of "In Chimney Corners," and Other Stories.

By Seumas MacManus.



UP OUT OF THE MIDDLE OF THE STRAW WITH A YELL AND SCREECH JUMPS THE LAD WHO WAS HIDDEN THERE.

Conal was holding the plow, and there were a great number of people passing along the road, going to mass, and they were plowing just by the road-side, and Donal was that proud, and wanting to draw attention of the people to them, he would say every other moment: "Ge-us, my horges!"

Conal threatened him a lot of times if he would not stop calling them his horses, he would have his life.

Donal always promised that he would stop, and the next minute when he would see another crowd passing, he would cry: "Gee-up, my horses!"

And at last he angered Conal so that he took up a bit of fron and struck Donal's old horse with it and knocked him down and killed him dead.

Donal was holding the plow, and there words that this old horse's hide is whisperin' in me ear."

"Indeed!" says the gentleman. "That's very wonderful! What is it it said?"

"It says," says Donal. "that to pick a boiled goose now would be no mad do to either you or me."

"Neither it would." says the gentleman, says he, "if we had the like."

With that Donal made the hide give another squeak. "And," says the gentleman, "is it speaking again?"

"Yes," says Donal. says he, "it's nothing only a few words that this old horse's hide is whisperin' in me ear."

"Indeed!" says Donal. "that to pick a boiled goose now would be no mad doubte to them, he would not stop calling them his would stop, and the next minute when he would stop,

And at last he angered Conal so that he took up a bit of fron and struck Donal's old horse with it and knocked him down and killed him dead.

Donai was a sorry enough man to see his poor old horse dead, but he didn't say much. Next morning he skinned the horse, and then hung it up in his wee cabin until it was right dry, and when it had dried, he threw it over his shoulder and started away to town with it to sell it.

When he went into town he couldn't get anyone to buy fine old hide for love or money, so my poor fellow had to start away for home again as night was falling on him.

At last it got that dark that he could not see his way any further, so he looked about until he saw a light; he drev on the light, and went up to a fine house, and lifted the latch and went in.

There was only a servant girl there, and when she saw him she asked him what he wanted.

He said he wanted only a pick to eat the look of the look

what he wanted.

He said he wanted only a pick to eat up and says he: "Is it speaking again?"

nd a hed until morning.

what he wanted.

He said he wanted only a pick to eat and a bed until morning.

She told him they kept no tramps about that house, and ordered him away or she would call the master and have him shoot him. It is she turned out poor Donal and Langed the door in his face.

It was too late and dark for Donal to go enywhere, so he hung about the house for a while. He wasn't long wafting there until he saw a young fellow come slipping up to the back door and going in. Then he went to the window and he peered in, and he saw how glad the servant girl was to see him. She gave him, the coftest seat in the house, and at once on the fire she put a pot and a fine goose in the pot, then she put a bottle of whiskey and a loaf of bread on the table, and as soon as the goose was boiled it was put on the table too, and both of them sat down to take a hearty meal at midnight. And they were chatting and laughing and enjoying themselves to no end.



time starting and setting out for home.

And on the evening after he came home, he went over to Conal to borrow a bushel measure.

Conal loaned him the bushel measure, but after he was gone, he wondered what the devil Donal wanted with it, so he said to himself as it was night, he would go over and peep into his window. So over after Donal he went and peeped into the window, and there he sees my brave Donal measure, inb out the bushels of gold and silver to see if he had the right measure. Then in on top of him then and there he walked and he asked him how did he come by so much gold and silver.

"Well," says Donal, says he, "when you kalled my poor old horse on Sunday last, you thought you were doing me an ill turn, and instead of that you never did me a better turn in your life."

"What do you mean?" says Conal.

"It's this," says Donal. "There's a gentleman," says he, "living near the town beyond," and he commenced to describe to Conal the house the man lived in, that bought his hide, "and that gentleman wants to have nine million bank notes, all within nine diays, and in order they will wear well, he will have them made out of nothing only tanned hides, and he's buying up all the tanned hides that he can get in the country, and giving three bushels of gold and three bushels of silver apiece for them. I sold him was at home, and had knocked down the was at home, and had knocked down to be stroke!"

So, as it was night, he started away to Donal's and he went to Donal's window and looked in; and there he want there he walked in and asked him how did he come by all that gold and silver.

"Well," says Donal, "when you came undering me, ye did me the best turn ever you did me in your life.

"Well," says Donal the house the man lived in, the town beyond, and he commenced to describe to Conal the house the man lived in, the two he you derived the town beyond, and he commenced to describe to Conal the house the man lived in, the two he was to home the was perfect of them, beginned the two he was to home the walked i



of silver."

"Agreed," says the gentleman. And and started for home. And when he with small delay, down in the room got home, he went down to Conal's to he measured into bags the gold and borrow a bushel measure this day the silver.

And when Conal saw the man com time starting and setting out for ing walking in alive that he believed home.

And on the evening after he came was his eyes that did open in wonder.

So, very little time he lost until he was at home, and had knocked down and killed dead his two mother-in-laws. And in the morning early, he was up and took to the road for the town, with the corpse of a mother-in-law over every shoulder.

When he came into the town, he started up and down the streets, singing out: "Mother-in-laws! Mother-in-laws! Mother-in-laws!

Additional and a continuity of the continuity of

not here ye are, and I after coming from drownin' you? An' how do ye come to be here, an' how does all that big flock of bullocks come to be in your fields?"

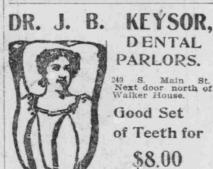
"Abe!" says Tonal

"Aha!" says Donal, says he, "you thought when you took and drowned me that you were doing me an ill turn, but that was the best turn you ever did me in your life before," says he. "How's that?" says Conal.

"Well, says Donal, "when you threw me down into the river, I sank and sank, until I sank down to the bottom, and there," says he, "I came on the most beautiful country that I ever laid me two eyes on, full of hills and

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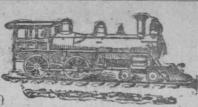
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